

Pacific Fleet Master Chief Recognized by the State of West Virginia



Shinnston native and Lincoln High School graduate James "Smitty" Tocarzic honored for his Naval service by Governor Jim Justice. Photo courtesy of Defense Visual Information Distribution Service.

Story by Chief Petty Officer Sarah Villegas, Office of the U.S. Pacific Fleet Master Chief

The U.S. Pacific Fleet Master Chief, James "Smitty" Tocarzic, was recently recognized with the Distinguished West Virginian Award for outstanding achievement and meritorious service. The award honors a citizen's service to West Virginia, and is the

highest award presented by the governor.

Tocarzic is a native of Shinnston, West Virginia and a graduate of Lincoln High School in Shinnston, West Virginia. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1989. He has served for over 30 years with duties as a P-3 flight engineer, drill instructor (recruit division commander), and Command Master Chief. He has held numerous senior enlisted leader positions to include multiple

aircraft carriers, Naval Air Forces Pacific, and in his current role he serves as the Fleet Master Chief of the world's largest naval command, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Del. Clay Riley, a member of the West Virginia House of Delegates, submitted his name to Governor Jim Justice for the prestigious award in recognition of his service to his state and the nation.

"I'm incredibly grateful to Governor Justice

and Delegate Riley for this honor," said Tocarzic. "I have always been proud of my home state. The Navy has afforded me great opportunities to serve, see the world, and engage with partner nations — all while representing the great state of West Virginia."

Tocarzic noted that peers in partner nation militaries often cite John Denver's "Take Me Home, Country Roads" with enthusiasm when learning that he hails from the mountain state.

"It's interesting that no matter where I visit in the world, people are always familiar with that song," said Tocarzic. "I'm even more impressed that they know the words and sing it, quite well actually. For me it's a great way to share my home state and the nation I'm proud to serve. Everyone has a place they fondly call home. That's why we serve — to protect our loved ones and that special place."

Harrison County 4-H/ FFA Livestock Show & Sale Planned

Make plans to join Harrison County 4-H and Future Farmers of America members on Sept. 23 at the upper pavilion at Summit Park as they show and sell their market animal projects. The participants will exhibit market steers, market hogs, market lambs, market goats, market broilers, and market rabbits before competing in showmanship in their respective species. Animals are placed on conformation, while in showmanship, the judge will be selecting youth who do the best job displaying their animal to the judge. Following species showmanship, winning youth will show in the Round Robin Showmanship to determine the top showman for the senior and junior divisions.

Following the show, youth will participate in a livestock skillathon where their knowledge will be put to the test. 4-H and FFA members will need to identify various breeds of livestock, plants, and will be tested on their quality assurance knowledge. The skillathon is just one portion of the premier exhibitor program, which also takes showmanship and animal placing into account.

Later that evening, youth will offer their market animal projects up for sale. Youth involved in these projects have hands-on experience and acquire an understanding of market animal production. These youth learn entrepreneurial skills and become advocates of animal agriculture.

Participants would like to thank the buyers and sponsors from the 2022 Livestock Show and Sale: Antero Resources Corporation, Ben Queen, Cooper Law Offices, Energy Transport, Farm Credit of the Virginias, Foster Feed, Friend-Sheep Suffolks & Club Lambs, Harrison County Bank, Harrison County Commission, Harrison County Farm Bureau, Harry Green Chevrolet/Nissan, John Watson, Kaufman Realty & Auction Service, Mike Romano, Mike's Pig Roasting & Catering, MPLX, MPLX-Sherwood Facility, Ryan Davis, S & D Farm, Shamblin Brothers Farm Supply, The BilMar at Kemper Run, Tractor Supply, Tyler's Landscaping, Young & Stout.

Buyers are welcome to join us prior to the sale for a Buyer/exhibitor dinner at 5 p.m., and the auction set to begin at 6 p.m. Please plan to join us and support youth in agriculture!

Elks Lodge to Host Community Drug Awareness Forum and Provide Speaker to Address Local Schools

By Stephen Smoot

As the opioid crisis evolves in Harrison County and all over West Virginia, the ripple effects of ruined lives and annihilated families continue to spread. These waves of despair affect the most vulnerable, most profoundly.

To help to keep the community informed of the widespread effects of drug addiction, as well as ways to roll back the problem, the Harrison County Elks Lodge 2875 has put together a program for both the community and for area school children.

As Jeff Barnhart, PER Central West Virginia Elks Drug Awareness Chairman stated in a release, the lodge "is excited to announce that in cooperation with the Harrison County Board of Education, the Harrison County Sheriff's Office, and Harrison County Deputy Sheriff's Association, the Elks' National Drug Awareness Speaker Ray Lozano will be touring each Harrison County middle and high school the week of September 18-21."

He added that they will also hold a community forum at Robert C. Byrd High School Auditorium on Sept 19 at 6 PM, saying "we invite the public, community leaders, parents, grand-

parents, clergy, coaches, sports teams, and any others who would like to receive information."

The effect of drug abuse on children creates added dangers related to instability, in addition to kids trying drugs themselves. As Barnhart explained, "we are seeing more and more of our youth being affected by drug abuse. Grandparents are now raising their grandchildren due to parents being incarcerated or deceased due to the drug epidemic that has faced our communities."

One of the primary goals of the program lies in prevention through education. Lozano, Barnhart says, "uses a unique approach to education on the dangers of drug abuse." A former comedian, Lozano uses humor to establish a connection with school-children, and "is able to inject comedy with real life stories to keep the attention of his audience." Children can respond freely to keep the presentation interactive, as opposed to giving a lecture as has often been done in past generations.

Barnhart shared that Harrison County has always had "heroes" working against the scourge of drugs. He cited the impact of Tom-

my "Franco" Thomas. Thomas worked as a patrol officer for Clarksburg Police Department, putting a great deal of time and effort into maximizing the effectiveness of the DARE program. Once again, a respectful give and take is key. As Barnhart stated, "Patrolman Thomas made it a point to interact with children and families, providing education to students at the grade school level." He also started a boxing gym for both youth and adults. It not only gave a positive way to develop oneself and stay off the streets, but it also "provided a non-judgmental zone for youth and adults to participate without having to worry about financial means."

Rampant drug use has affected the community in multiple ways. Barnhart cites the spiral of family disintegration as a key issue. "The family unit that used to exist no longer does, in many cases, due to family members splitting to do drugs." Barnhart says that the key to breaking this "never ending situation" lies in "more drug education . . . at an early age" to enable better life choices.

The job market has also been skewed by drug addiction. "Employers," he said, "are no longer able to find willing and able bod-

ied people to fill open job positions." In some cases, addiction keeps an otherwise skilled individual from even functioning on the job. Others may have enough function to work, but cannot pass a drug screen. This has resulted in some businesses leaving the area because they cannot fully staff.

The three legs of the response "stool" lie in prevention, enforcement, and treatment. The state has struggled thus far to create enough opportunities for treatment. "State and local governments need to work together," Barnhart says, "to find a means of providing more facilities to treat this illness of drug use." Too many return too soon to an environment that undoes the good done by treatment. He suggests that the recent settlement should be used to expand treatment options, "and not place the funds into a non proven system."

Barnhart expressed optimism for the future, with educating children early and important factor. "Life is full of choices," he said, "and by educating the population, this will pass."



BUILDING AMAZING CITIES

By **JIM HUNT**
author, speaker, consultant

Bottom Line Green

In 2009, my good friend, Mike Conduff and published a book on green awareness in cities and towns across the country. We wanted it to be a starting point for cities to start a discussion on how new technologies and innovations were going to remake cities and hopefully, save money in the process. The book was titled "Bottom Line Green-How America's Cities are Saving the Planet (and Money Too!)" and we were invited to dozens of cities to talk about the book and facilitate discussions on adopting these new strategies. The challenge in writing a book on technology in 2009, is that the advances were moving at such a rapid pace, and they became old news before the ink was dry on the pages.

One of the most popular new innovations was energy efficient streetlighting and it represented some of the biggest savings available to cities and towns. It is estimated that there are over 35 million streetlights in the United States and switching to LED lighting could reduce energy costs by over 80%. This meant that a city could invest in new streetlights and the savings would pay for the cost of the lights in less than five years. We conducted workshops in several states and brought together the lighting department directors and many of them began the transformation to energy efficient lighting.

This past week, Mike Conduff and I had the opportunity to speak with Trent Prall, the Public Works Director of Grand Junction, Colorado, and it brought back memories of

See "Hunt" on Pg 3

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Guest Column

By Charlotte Lane
Chair, WV Public Service Commission

Safety on the Rails

When I was a little girl, few things were as thrilling as standing beside a railroad track while a tall train engine rumbled past. I never lost my love for railroads as I grew older. I did, however, learn the vital importance the rail system played not only in commerce, but in physically binding the nation as one after the Civil War.

Many western movies portray the thrilling race of the three main east-west railroads competing to drive lines from the Mississippi River to the west coast. With steel ties, they fastened us into one geographic unit.

One of the responsibilities of the Public Service Commission that few people know about is regulation of railroads. Our Railroad Safety Section has powerful and wide-ranging duties. They inspect track, cars and locomotives, hazardous materials, signal and train controls, and operating practices.

It's a big job. And it is ably managed by John Perry. John is a native of the tiny Wyoming County town of Ravencliff. Three decades ago, he started with the Commission as an inspector. Now he commands a staff of 10, and they have a colossal amount of work to do.

The West Virginia rail system is enormous. It comprises two major and 11 regional, or what are known as "short line," railroads. The PSC has jurisdiction over 2,401 miles of track in the Mountain State. While freight carriage has declined nationally since the turn of the century, rail transport of goods, particularly coal, remains important in our state.

It may be surprising, but more than 1,000 people are killed or injured each year in this country because they are trespassing on railroad tracks. The Federal Railroad Administration reports there were more than three derailments daily in 2022, or a total of 1,154.

Recent derailments of trains near the West Virginia borders and carrying toxic materials point once again to the importance of the duties performed by John and his inspectors. In fact, West Virginia's railroads are nationally recognized as among the safest in the nation. That is due to our rigorous inspection program and the fact that all of our inspectors are fully certified by the Federal Railroad Administration. Most are also volunteers in Operation Lifesaver.

So, the next time you are stopped by a train, or you hear that mournful whistle as one approaches an intersection, remember the Public Service Commission's team is working to keep you safe.

Super Crossword

NATIONAL DATA

- ACROSS 1 Bumper-car carnival ride 7 TV title alien 10 Garden pond fish 13 Cause to blunder 19 Cook too long 20 Ned of NASCAR 22 Ned of "The D.A." 23 Appear gradually, as a scene 24 "No, seriously!" 25 Surrounded by 26 Mountain laurel 29 Clumsy type 30 Stocking stuffer 31 It's charged 32 Alternative to ChapStick 37 "Old Folks at Home" 44 Vital artery 45 Spellbound 47 1989-2007 senator Trent 48 Stein fillers 49 Blue spruce 53 Propose a date to 55 Author Ferber 56 Pro (in proportion) 57 "— a customer" 59 Joe of "GoodFellas" 60 Clinton aide Myers 62 Susan of "Goldengirl" 64 Eurasian animal with antlers 66 "North to the Future" 70 Used up 74 118-Across was one 75 Printing goofs 80 Humdinger 81 Reformer Ralph 84 "OK" from Tom Sawyer to Aunt Polly 86 Workplace welfare org. 87 Fuddy-duddies 89 Topaz 92 Relative of a lutz 93 Bullfight yells 95 Israeli airline 96 Right wrongs 97 Cactus wren 101 Went in 103 To the — power 104 Savings acct. accrual 105 Hail, basically 106 Some legislators (or the theme of this puzzle?) 117 Arrived by plane 118 Opera legend Pavarotti 119 Make a comment 120 Response to "You'd never do that!" 121 Ill-fated NASA mission of 1967 122 And others, to Ovid 123 Dwelt 124 Round bread of India 125 Subj. for some immigrants 126 Passable 8 Desktop illuminator 9 No longer being detained 10 Sax celebrity 11 Soulful Redding 12 Really tiny 13 "Saturday Night Fever" star 14 Hard Italian cheese 15 "Sure, put me down" 16 Toenail treatment, informally 17 Astral bear 18 Coffee holder 21 Rambled 27 Mexican city due south of Dallas 28 Elevate 32 Waiting with — breath 33 2013 Grammy winner for "Royals" 34 Dunne of classic films 35 Lieu 36 Chinese ideal 37 California county whose seat is Fairfield 38 Sign word after "Ye" 39 Stocking stuffer 40 Worked on a leaf collection? 41 "You beat me" 42 Tennis tie 43 Up and about 46 Gained access to 50 Refrigeration fluid 51 Workers with shingles, maybe 52 Kofi, once of the U.N. 54 Caveman's weapon 58 Scrub nurses' sites, in brief 61 Be hammy 63 Tribal pole emblem 65 — Mountain (Vermont ski resort) 67 Two fives 68 — Marymount University 69 Stadium's kin '90s 71 Pope before Paul V 72 Coors offering 73 Trade group 76 GPS calculation 77 1941 Oscar winner Mary 78 Scottish title 79 Emitted a contented sigh 82 Ending for golden or New 83 Arnaz of TV 85 Decide on 88 Toned down 90 Outside clearance event, of a sort 91 Quite chubby 94 Bert with lion lines 98 Not delayed 99 Diamond substitute 100 Baseball pioneer Buck 102 Came closer 105 One way to fry food 106 Chunky slice 107 Garr of films 108 Spellbound 109 Flair 110 Cocooned insect 111 Son of Seth 112 Head, in Haiti 113 Classroom Apple, often 114 Glen 115 Bard's Ireland 116 Revue sketch 117 Pill-OK'ing agcy.

Grid for Super Crossword with numbers 1-117 indicating starting positions for clues.

FIND THE SUPER CROSSWORD ANSWERS ON PAGE 6!

THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

Charleston WV – The following events happened on these dates in West Virginia history. To read more, go to e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia at www.wvencyclopedia.org.

Sept. 14, 1898: Okey L. Patteson was born in Mingo County. Patteson, called the "Great Persuader," tackled difficult decisions as West Virginia's 23rd governor from 1949 to 1953.

Sept. 15, 1861: In the aftermath of the Battle of Carnifex Ferry, Union forces under the command of Gen. Jacob Cox occupied the area of Spy Rock. Spy Rock is a natural landmark located on U.S. 60, 18 miles east of Hawks Nest.

Sept. 15, 1862: Confederate Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson forced the surrender of a large Union garrison inside the town of Harpers Ferry. The 12,500 prisoners taken by Jackson was the largest surrender of federal troops in the war.

Sept. 15, 1875: Henry Hatfield was born near Matewan, Mingo County. As a doctor in the coal camps, he helped secure funding to establish three miners hospitals for the southern part of the state. In 1912, he was elected the state's 14th governor.

Sept. 15, 1906: Songwriter Jack Rollins was born in Keyser. Rollins wrote the lyrics to "Here Comes Peter Cottontail" and "Frosty the Snow Man," two of America's most popular songs.

Sept. 16, 1876: The town of Milton in Cabell County was incorporated and named in honor of Milton Rece, a large landowner at the time.

Sept. 16, 1926: Writer John Knowles was born in Fairmont. He attained literary fame in 1959 with his first novel, A Separate Peace.

Sept. 16, 1950: Scholar Henry Louis Gates Jr. was born in Keyser. Gates is one of the leading Black intellectuals in the United States. His books include Colored People: A Memoir, about growing up in Mineral County. He hosts the popular PBS program Finding Your Roots.

Sept. 17, 1848: Artist Lily Irene Jackson was born in Parkersburg. Jackson was best known as a painter

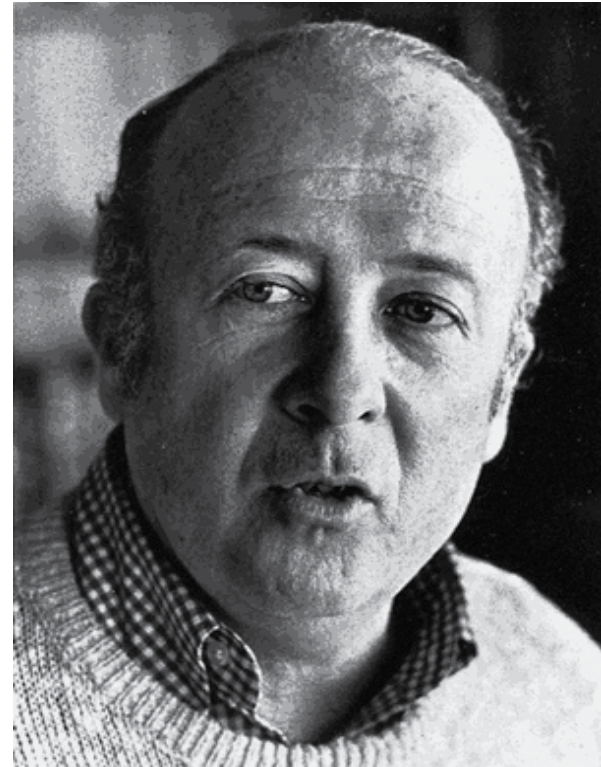
of animal portraits and floral arrangements, and as an advocate for the arts.

Sept. 18, 1947: Historian and journalist Minnie Kendall Lowther died. Born in Ritchie County, she was one of the first West Virginia women to become a newspaper editor.

Sept. 18, 1989: Playwright Maryat Lee died in Lewisburg. She established Eco Theater in Summers County as an indigenous mountain theater, using Summers County people as actors.

Sept. 19, 1892: William "Bill" Blizzard was born in Cabin Creek, Kanawha County. Blizzard became one of West Virginia's most influential and controversial labor leaders of the 20th century.

Sept. 20, 1914: Ken Hechler was born on Long Island, New York. Hechler served 18 years in the U.S. Congress and four terms as West Virginia's secretary of state.



Acclaimed author John Knowles was born in Fairmont in 1926

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“Hunt” From Pg 1.

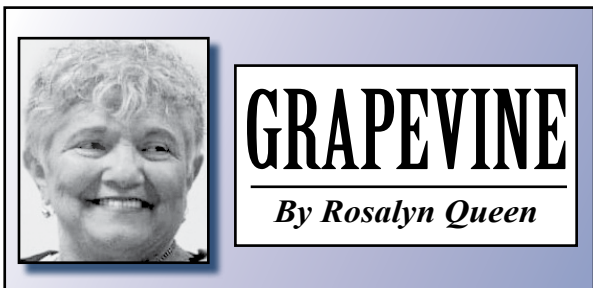
our work on green awareness, many years ago. Grand Junction is currently looking at converting their 8,000 streetlights to an energy efficient LED. Director Prall also related some interesting things that have come about because of technological developments in his city. Grand Junction installed cameras on the traffic signals, and they have changed the way, accidents are investigated in the city. He told us that the police investigations have gone from days of investigation to mere minutes, after the camera footage is reviewed. He is looking at increasing the number of cameras, by installing them on some of the new streetlights. They are also looking at other technology that can be installed on the lights, like wireless 5g and

license plate readers.

We also learned that Grand Junction is now powering their water and sewer plants with solar energy and using methane from the wastewater treatment facility to fuel city vehicles. These and other initiatives are paying for themselves through energy savings and the city has recently hired its first sustainability director to find new opportunities to explore.

Our visit with Director Prall, reinforced our thoughts from back in 2009, that green awareness is one of the best things a city can do to prepare for the future. As cities like Grand Junction, adopt these strategies, their citizens benefit, and the planet becomes a little greener. An Amazing future!

Checking Out “the Best Kept Secret in Clarksburg” and Remembering John Oliverio



GRAPEVINE
By Rosalyn Queen



Pictured is the Grilled Club Cafe which is located on East Main Street in Broadway.

I found one of the best kept secrets in Clarksburg when My Friend Alexa Scott and I were going out to lunch last week and the Grilled Club Cafe was recommended to us by my son, Marty. The Cafe is located in Broadway. It is in the newly renovated Broadway Apartments and has a great appearance both inside and out.

Upon entering the Cafe you are greeted by an eight foot tin man and the inside decor features a chess set on the ceiling. But so much for the decorations we were there to eat..

We sat down and started studying the menu. It featured sandwiches, hamburgers, cold cut sandwiches and grilled club sandwiches as well as salads and other items. I chose a hamburger and Alexis ordered a turkey and bacon ranch. Both of us were pleased with our choices and found them to be fresh and delicious. I must add that prior to our visit I was having last minute company and had Marty go out and pick up food and he stopped at the Cafe. He brought home several hoagies, a club sandwich, sausage sandwich and several hamburgers. These were complemented by fried hot green beans, fried mushrooms, Mac and cheese bites, potato wedges and fried mozzarella sticks. A little slicing of the sandwiches and a placement on a pretty dish of the sides and I had a lunch to serve. Plus it was delicious. I want to also tell you that the prices were great. Those of you that know me know that one of my pet peeves is paying \$2.00 and more for a cup of coffee, well here it is for \$1.79. I encourage you to stop in or place a take out.

Well the rest of the story is the owner, Jason Clutter. He joined Alexis and me and we had a great conversation. An interesting fact; he is related to Custer of Custers last stand.

While visiting the Cafe be sure to look at all the renovations in Broadway. It is being restored to the Broadway I grew up in.

This past week I attended the funeral services for John Oliverio. John has been a part of my entire life. We were both born in East View and our roots go deep. I was glad I could be there for his children Tia, Bianca, Alisha and Jon Michael and his brother, Joe. Through his ownership of the Superette, John meant a lot to a lot of people in East View, especially the young kids. May he rest in peace.

The Sons Of Italy picnic was great and was

well attended. The food was delicious. The club is once again growing under the leadership of Rocky Romano as president. It looks like we are attracting some of the younger Italian Americans to join. If interested contact Rocky.

Well it is finally canning time. Be sure to visit the Farmers Market for your peppers.

Enjoy the beautiful fall weather, stay safe, stay healthy and until next week “Now You Have Heard It Through The Grapevine.”

Want to BASE Jump from a bridge in the Nation’s Newest National Park?

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – The West Virginia Department of Tourism today announced a contest to award one thrill-seeker the opportunity to tandem BASE jump from the New River Gorge Bridge this fall. The winner of the contest will receive a free trip to West Virginia and the opportunity of a lifetime as a part of Bridge Day festivities in the nation’s newest national park. Daredevils from all over the U.S. and Canada are encouraged to sign up for the chance to win at wvtourism.com/contest/.

Each year, the New River Gorge National Park & Preserve hosts Bridge Day, the nation’s premier extreme sports event, where nearly 150,000 spectators watch as 350 BASE jumpers parachute 876 feet into the Gorge’s stunning fall colors. Bridge Day is West Virginia’s largest single-day festival and one of the largest extreme sports events in the world. Held annually on the third Saturday in October on the New River Gorge Bridge in Fayette County, this is the only day each year that spectators can walk across the fifth-longest steel-arch bridge in the world as daredevils take the plunge into one of the oldest rivers in the world and an area recognized by TIME as One of the World’s Greatest Places.

“Bridge Day is one of the world’s top extreme-sports events, and we are thrilled to offer one lucky daredevil the opportunity to join us and literally fly with some of the world’s most spectacular fall foliage as a backdrop,” said West Virginia Tourism Secretary Chelsea Ruby.

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N&J Briefs

FROM AROUND HARRISON COUNTY
The Shinnston News provides a calendar of events free of charge to churches and nonprofit organizations. Please submit your listing two weeks prior to the event. Send via email to newsandjournal@yahoo.com

On Thursday, Sept. 21, 2023, the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 31 will hold its monthly meeting. 7 pm at Post 31, Bridge St., Shinnston. All members welcome.

The City of Shinnston advises that if you have not already done so, please fill out and submit the Copper and Lead Form to the office with your water bill or electronically. If you have already done so, you may disregard this message. Thank you!

The Jewel City Church announces its Fall Fest on Oct 15 at 3 PM. This includes games, a petting zoo, food, and more. Address is 511 Jewel City Blvd in Meadowbrook

The Postal Service is hiring to fill holiday clerk positions, known as a postal support employee (PSE), across the entire Kentucky-West Virginia District. These non-career positions earn \$20.05 per hour, paid bi-weekly. Interested applicants can find additional information and apply online at usps.com/careers (<http://about.usps.com/careers/welcome.htm>). Highlight Kentucky or West Virginia, then click SEARCH. For assistance, text HOLIDAY CLERK HELP to 502-345-3356.

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Another Lights Out Friday Night Lights



The Bottom Line

By Bill Nestor
Sports Editor

This past Friday marked the first time that at least a part of Harrison County teams had a break at the same time, while the others did their best Meat Loaf impersonation.

Liberty and Robert C. Byrd had the week off while two of the remaining squads (Lincoln and Bridgeport) won and according to the rock star "two out of three ain't bad."

Lincoln had soundly defeated Braxton County and Elkins to start the campaign. Both of these victories came in Shinnston. There is a distinct home field advantage at Stydahr Field as the question was posed. Could the Cougars take their show on the road and claim a win? Veteran coach, Rob Hawkins and company would answer and company would answer with a resounding 69-14 defeat of Grafton at McKinney Field. It was the most points put on the scoreboard by a Lincoln team in school history.

A 3-0 start is impressive and when you look at how they have done it, then it becomes downright scary for future opponents. The Cougars have shown offensive consistency putting no less than 41 points on the board and they have outscored their opponents 54.5 to 4.6 on average with Halloween on the horizon, this year's edition is striking fear in the hearts of the remaining teams on the schedule.

Lincoln continued its trend of scoring in various ways this past Friday. Brayden Edge recorded his third pick-six of the year when he took a Bearcat pass and went 61 yards for the game's first score. Liam Gallagher provided the extra point (the first of seven) while Cade Riley would add two of his

own late in the game for the Cougars to make it 7-0. Perine would help double the lead when he bounced on a blocked punt in the end zone. David Burdette added a 21 yard touchdown run and the rout was on.

Quarterback A. J. Bart was 11-14 for 303 yards with five touchdown passes. Perine, Aiden Rice (2) and Edgell (2) hauled in the scoring passes from Bart. Burdette was the game's leading rusher with 76 yards on five rushes and he also added a second scoring run from 32 yards out in the victory.

Bridgeport rebounded from a loss a week ago to Morgantown with a 72-24 pounding over John Marshall in Moundsville. Indian running back Zach Rohrig became the first county rusher this season to go over the 200 yard mark, finishing with 212 yards on 14 attempts. He also scored three rushing touchdowns on the night.

Avery Williams would add six extra points throughout the affair with a couple of two-point conversions added in. Tanner Hathaway had seven carries, scoring on three of them while garnering 67 yards in the process.

South Harrison returned home and looked to have their first win of the season locked up late in this battle with Richie County. However, the Rebels mounted a comeback of epic proportions, scoring the game's last 22 points (all coming in the fourth quarter) to gain the come-from-behind victory.

It was a true heavyweight battle from start to finish with running back Lucas Rush leading the way for the Hawks. Rush would rush for 230 yards on 26 attempts and become the second Harrison County running back to eclipse the 200 yard mark this season. Rush accounted for all four South Harrison scores on runs of 7, 5, 57, and 61 yards respectively.

Corey Saltis, Zane Harlow, and Shepherd Paugh (2) added two point conversions in the matchup that ended 34-32.

Harrison County EMS



Athletes of the Week

It's that time once again to acknowledge the efforts of Harrison County's student-athletes. Each week we review the performances of the athletes from the six schools (Bridgeport, Liberty, Lincoln, Notre Dame, Robert C. Byrd, and South Harrison) in our county.

The Shinnston News & Harrison County Journal's Athlete of the Week award is an avenue to promote the youth of our county while bringing attention to their athletic accomplishments.

The Athletes of the Week this week are Bridgeport's Ava Hollen and South Harrison's Lucas Rush.

Indian soccer standout Ava Hollen continued her impressive play with a four goal game this past Tuesday. Hollen was again dominant for the Tribe with her squad getting a win over Liberty 11-1.

Hawk running back Lucas Rush holds the individual game rushing record this season after garnering 230 yards on 26 rushes. Rush also scored all four Hawk touchdowns on runs of 7, 5, 57, and 61 yards in a heartbreaking 34-32 loss to Richie County.

Congratulations top Bridgeport's Ava Hollen and South Harrison's Lucas Rush for shining bright in the Shinnston News & Harrison County Journal Athletes of the Week!

Lincoln High School Photos



Cougar cross country has their claws out before competing at Buckhannon. Photo courtesy of Lincoln High School Yearbook staff on LHS Facebook page



Defenseman Gracie Devericks keeps pace against the Elkins offense in their contest last week. Photo courtesy of Lincoln High School Yearbook staff on LHS Facebook page.

Falcons Race Past Bluefield State In Straight Sets

Fairmont State hit .313 on the night while holding the Big Blue to a .000 hitting percentage.

BLUEFIELD, W.Va. – The Fairmont State (3-2) volleyball team cruised past Bluefield State (2-3) in the Falcons' first road match of the season on Tuesday (Sept. 5) at Ned Shott Gymnasium in Bluefield, W.Va.

Fairmont State Leaders

Freshman outside hitter Ellie Zuro was the lone player in double figures for kills. The Wadsworth, Ohio native tallied 13 kills and hit .455 to go along with a block solo to lead the Falcons' offensive effort. Josie Nobbe recorded eight kills while Joey Borelle added five kills and a service ace. Jaianna Bouarouy and Kelsie Dangerfield combined for 32 assists and facilitated the Fairmont State offense. Defensively, Josie Skinn snagged 14 digs while Borelle hustled down 13. Emma Ludwig and Nobbe each finished with a pair of blocks.

Inside Set One

The Falcons were firing on all cylinders to begin the match, outscoring the Big Blue 8-1 in the first nine points. A Zuro kill, a block solo by Nobbe and a Bluefield State attack error pushed the Fairmont State lead to 11-2. The Falcons scored five consecutive points that included two kills by Nobbe and a kill from Zuro, and the Falcons held a commanding 16-3 advantage. Natalie Zamba added a kill and the Big Blue fired an attack error to end the set and the Falcons dominated the opening frame, 25-10.

Inside Set Two

Bluefield State jumped out to a 10-7 lead at the beginning of the second set. Borelle and Nobbe both swung back-to-back kills and a Big Blue attack error evened the score at 10. After Bluefield State scored the next two points, Fairmont State

ripped off six straight points thanks to a trio of Zuro kills and a kill by Borelle. The Falcons extended their lead to 19-13 when Ludwig recorded a block solo at the net. Borelle closed out set two with a kill that made the score 25-17 FSU.

Inside Set Three

The Big Blue controlled a five-point lead in set three at 11-6. A Zamba kill and a BSU bad set trimmed the deficit to three points. The Falcons pulled within two points at 14-12 following a Bluefield State attack error. Nobbe and Zuro went for consecutive kills and the Falcons trailed by one point at 15-14. Bluefield State regained the momentum with a three-point run and held a four-point lead, 18-14. The Falcons responded with a 5-1 run to pull back within one point that was capped off with a kill by Cayden Anschutz. Fairmont State earned its first lead of the set at 21-20 from a Bluefield State attack error. After Bluefield State tied the score at 21, Vicky Manda put down a kill, assisted by Bouarouy, to give the Falcons a late lead. Bluefield State went back ahead after winning the next two points. Fairmont State captured the next three points after a kill from Zuro tied the match. Bluefield State made a pair of set errors to end the match with a set three victory for Fairmont State, 25-23.

Up Next

The Fairmont State volleyball team prepares for the Hall of Fame City Classic, which begins Friday (Sept. 8) in North Canton, Ohio. The Falcons will play Roberts Wesleyan at 12:15 on Friday afternoon before squaring off with Walsh at 2:30 later in the afternoon.

Tigers Struggle Continues Against Point Park

PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania - The Tigers were back in action today playing on the second night of a back-to-back. This time they traveled to Pittsburgh to take on the Point Park University Pioneers. The Tigers early season struggles continued tonight falling 3-0 to the Pioneers on their home court.

The first set was all Pioneers from the start as they jumped out to a 7 - 0 lead against the Tigers. Point Park showed no signs of slowing up, keeping their foot on the gas pedal the entire first set and coming away with a win 25 - 16.

In the second set the Tigers looked to bounce back the same way they did on Tuesday against the Pioneers from Glenville after going down 1-0. They were able to strike first, but the Pioneers quickly answered back with a 4-0 run to silence the Tigers. The set

remained tight as both teams stuck together until the score reached 11-12 in favor of Point Park. The Pioneers proceeded to go on an 8-3 run to go up 20 - 14. Salem tried to start a run of their own but could not get anything going in the end falling 25 - 15.

The Pioneers continued the trend of starting hot and getting ahead early in the set, establishing a 6 point lead before the Tigers were able to strike pay dirt. The Tigers picked up their play through the remainder of the set, but they continually got killed by back to back points. It seemed like every time Salem would score Point Park was able to respond with 2 of their own. In the end the Pioneers proved too much to handle on their home court winning the final set 25 - 14 and the match 3-0.

Fairmont State Tennis Competes at WWC Tournament

BUCKHANNON, W.Va. – The Fairmont State tennis team competed in the West Virginia Wesleyan Tournament last weekend in Buckhannon. The tournament was shortened due to lightning on Friday and rain on Saturday.

On the men's side, Elia Barozzi and Seena Saadevandi won a pair of doubles matches. The duo defeated Davis & Elkins 7-5 and West Virginia Wesleyan 6-1. Jasper de Bruijn and Max Phillips teamed up and defeated WWC 6-2 and Davis & Elkins 6-1. Mohamed El Helaly and Jacob Boone earned a 6-3 win over West Virginia Wesleyan to conclude play.

Maria Fonseca and Hope Backx shined for the women's team, winning two doubles matches for the Falcons. The doubles team rolled versus Charleston, 6-1 and Davis & Elkins 6-2.

The Fairmont State tennis program will compete at the ITA Atlantic Regional Tournament starting on Thursday (Sept. 14) in Bloomsburg, Pa.

HCSCC SPOTLIGHT

Featuring news from the Harrison County Senior Citizen Center



Seniors Enjoy After Lunch Special Bingo on Thursday, August 24, 2023

Seniors enjoyed a delicious lunch followed by door prize drawings and a special bingo to win meal certificates to be used in the Kinley Café. Pictured below are Violet Stout with the door prize cart handing out a prize to Sue Marks while Kathryn Michalik, a previous winner, looks on, and Terry Lynch showing off his Junior

Mints candy prize. In addition to Jim Corley and Bill O'Field, other senior members, who wish to remain anonymous, frequently contribute prizes for the special bingo door prize cart. Director Beth Fitzgerald schedules special after lunch door prize and bingo events around various holidays.

North Central Walk to End ALZ Scheduled for Sunday, October 22, 2023 at Meadowbrook Mall



Together, WE CAN END ALZHEIMER'S

10.22.23

Meadowbrook Mall Start a team.



The North Central Walk to End Alzheimer's will be held on Sunday, October 22, 2023 at Meadowbrook Mall,

2399 Meadowbrook Road, Bridgeport, WV. Check-in begins at 1:00 PM fol-

lowed by the Opening Ceremony and Walk at 2:00 PM. Join the fight for Alzheimer's first survivor and add your flower to the fight to end Alzheimer's. For more information on joining a team as a walker, to volunteer, or to start a walk team, contact Bill O'Field, North Central Walk Chair, or Betty Waddy, Walk Co-Chair, at Harrison County Senior Center 304.623.6795.

Harrison County Senior Center Walk Team Fundraises



Shinnston Satellite Member Enith Wright stopped by to purchase tickets to support the Harrison County Senior Center North Central Walk to End Alzheimer's Walk Team's Raffle Basket at the Clarksburg Farmer's Market on Emily Drive on Saturday, August 5, 2023. Bill O'Field, Team Captain, expresses his thanks to the Clarksburg Farmer's Market Board of Directors for providing a space for the team to fundraise during this summer. The winner of the basket will be announced on our October page.

HCSC Information

HCSC Membership is \$10 yearly and open to those age 50+. Activities and services available include, fitness room, Exercise group, Toning group, Tai Chi class, Bingocize class, Line Dance group, Ceramics class, Bingo Fun Club, Senior Olympics, daily cards and game playing in the café, puzzle & TV room, computer lab, transportation, food box programs, in home caregiving programs, socialization, and Kinley Café food service. The center is open M - F, 8 AM - 4 PM.

In addition to the main center in Clarksburg at 500 W. Main St., there are 12 senior center satellite groups in Harrison County that meet at various times and locations throughout the month.

For more information on senior center activities, services, or satellites, call 304.623.6795, or visit our Harrison County Senior Citizens facebook page or website at www.hscsvv.org

Support HCSC with BOSCOV's Charity Day Shop for a Cause on Thursday, October 5, 2023



Stop by the front Shopping Pass "Shop for a Cause" to support pm, to purchase a \$5 HCSC programs and BOSCOV's Grand activities. The Charity Opening Charity Day Day Pass allows you to

be the first to shop the brand new BOSCOV's store and help the center at the same time. Present the ticket for admittance on Thursday, October 5, 2023 between 10 am to 10 pm to receive a free umbrella and be entered into a drawing for store gift certificates.

HCSCC Board of Directors News

HCSCC Board of Directors Actions at the August 16, 2023, Special Board Meeting

The HCSCC Board of Directors held a Special Meeting in a hybrid format both in-person in the boardroom and on Zoom on Wednesday, August 16, 2023, and the following Board actions were taken:

Changed banks for the Senior Center from MVB Bank to Huntington Bank; and, Changed auditors for the Senior Center to

begin with the upcoming audit.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 28, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. in person in the boardroom and on Zoom.

2023 - 2024 Board Officers & Members
E. Ryan Kennedy, President, Bill O'Field, Vice President, Franklin Hairston, Secretary, Betty Waddy, Treasurer, Carol E. Brown, Janet Dotson, Sharon Hamilton, Will Hyman, Harley Jeffries, Bill Phillips, Donna Stuart, and Susan Thomas.

HCSC Employees Attend Mandatory Training Day



HCSC was closed to the public on August 9, 2023 to allow employees to complete mandatory training requirements for safety requirements and job skills knowledge. Steve Hinerman from the Clarksburg-Harrison Health Department conducted the Food Handlers Safety class for more than 50 center employees and volunteers. Janice Milson, RN and In-Home Services Manager, conducted specific training with caregivers, and HIPPA requirements and other required trainings with the entire group.

Shown below: Crystal Pumphrey, In-Home Admin Assistant and Janice Milson, RN review training materials, Janice Milson, RN teaches new material to caregiver class, and HCSC van drivers discuss safety measures and new TripMaster transportation scheduling software updates.

Harrison County Senior Center

500 W. Main St., Clarksburg, WV 26301

304.623.6795

www.hscsvv.org

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Manchin Announces 2023 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree Essay Contest for West Virginia Fourth Graders

Washington, DC – a once-in-a-lifetime all- Today, U.S. Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV), Chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, announced an essay contest for West Virginia fourth graders as part of the celebration of the 2023 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree. The Capitol Christmas Tree – known as “The People’s Tree” – lights up the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol during the holiday season and is selected from a different national forest each year. This year, the tree will come from West Virginia’s Monongahela National Forest.

“The Capitol Christmas Tree is a wonderful, historic tradition that brings our great country together during the holidays, and I am thrilled that the 2023 tree will be from West Virginia’s Monongahela National Forest,” said Senator Manchin. “This essay contest will allow one outstanding fourth grader to take part in the official tree-lighting ceremony in Washington, which will showcase not only our remarkable forestry, but also our strong community spirit. I’m grateful to the Forest Service for their hard work and partnership on this celebration, and I can’t wait to read about what our Wild and Wonderful home means to young West Virginians across the Mountain State.”

Students are invited to describe in 500 words why they love West Virginia’s forests and public lands, incorporating the theme of the 2023 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree: “Endlessly Wild & Wonderful.” Senator Manchin will select one student from statewide submissions to receive a once-in-a-lifetime all-expenses paid trip for the winner and one guardian to travel to Washington, DC in late November or early December to take part in the official tree-lighting ceremony alongside members of the U.S. House of Representatives, the U.S. Senate and the public. The student will be invited to attend several other festivities during their visit and may have an opportunity to read their winning essay publicly.

Each year, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Forest Service selects a national forest to provide the Christmas tree for the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol, a tradition that began in 1970 when Monongahela National Forest provided the first tree on behalf of the Forest Service. Monongahela National Forest also provided the tree in 1976. This year, the tree will be harvested in Randolph County from the Greenbrier Ranger District and will travel around West Virginia throughout November before heading to Washington.

More information on the essay contest: Contest open to all fourth-grade students who are residents of West Virginia. Essays should be no more than 500 words, submitted to uscapitolchristmastree.com/essay

Include the name of the student; parent’s email address; name of the student’s teacher and principal; and name, address and phone number of the student’s school. Submit essays by September 26. The winner will be announced in early October.

Submit essays by September 26. The winner will be announced in early October.

Monongahela National Forest Announces 2023 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree Tour Schedule

ELKINS, W.Va., September 6, 2023 – Each year, a different national forest provides a tree to light the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol for the holiday season. Monongahela National Forest, in partnership with nonprofit partner Choose Outdoors and presenting sponsor 84 Lumber, will bring this special gift from West Virginia to Washington, D.C., with a series of events in communities along the way.

Between Nov. 4-17, local communities will welcome the 63-foot Norway spruce at parks, plazas, schools, memorials, main streets, and more. Well-wishers can see the wrapped-up tree on its extra-long trailer, sign the banners attached to each side, learn about Monongahela National Forest, purchase U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree merchandise, and enjoy the holiday spirit in their communities.

“We are grateful to the communities of West Virginia for hosting these special events,” said Shawn Cochran, forest supervisor for Monongahela National Forest, “and the many sponsors that make this tour possible. Our staff looks forward to sharing the holiday excitement and fun with people of all ages on the U.S. Capitol Christmas tree tour.”

The tour will kick off Saturday, November 4, with a special celebration in Elkins, home to the headquarters of Monongahela National Forest. Hosted in partnership with the Elkins-Randolph Chamber of Commerce and Elkins Mainstreet, the city will become “Elfkins,” with annual holiday lights and festivities planned at the Elkins Depot Welcome Center, including an appearance by Mark Bowe, host of Magnolia Network’s Barnwood Builders, at the AHF Products® booth.

The schedule of tour events includes:
 Saturday, Nov. 4, 6:00 p.m.– 8:00 p.m. Elkins Depot Welcome Center (315 Railroad Ave, Elkins, WV 26241)
 Sunday, Nov. 5, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Summersville Arena and Conference Center (3 Armory Way, Summersville, WV 26651)
 Monday, Nov. 6, 4:00 p.m.– 6:00 p.m. Mitchell Chevrolet (400 8th St, Marlinton, WV 24954)
 Tuesday, Nov. 7, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Tamarack Marketplace (One Tamarack Place, Beckley, WV 25801); 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. WV State Capitol Complex (1716 Kanawha Blvd E, Charleston, WV 25305)
 Wednesday, Nov. 8, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Former ACF Industries Parking Lot (3rd Avenue between 22nd and 24th streets, Huntington, WV 25703)
 Thursday, Nov. 9, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. White Palace at Wheeling Park (1801 National Road, Wheeling, WV 26003)

Friday, Nov. 10, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. 84 Lumber (3208 Earl L. Core Road, Morgantown, WV 26508)
 Saturday, Nov. 11, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Operation Welcome Home at Mylan Park (452 Mylan Park Lane, Morgantown, WV 26501); 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. West Virginia University at Downtown Morgantown (243 High St, Morgantown, WV 26505)
 Sunday, Nov. 12, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Swilled Dog/Raymond’s Gymnastic Center (28 Industrial Park Road, Upper Tract, WV 26866)
 Monday, Nov. 13, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Davis Yard (533 William Avenue, Davis, WV 26260)
 Tuesday, Nov. 14, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. WV Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (301 E Main St, Romney, WV 26757)
 Wednesday, Nov. 15, 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Harpers Ferry Job Corps Center (146 Buffalo Dr, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425)
 Thursday, Nov. 16, 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Joint Base Andrews (Base only)
 Friday, Nov. 17, Delivery to West Lawn, U.S. Capitol Building

Festivities are free and open to the public for all to enjoy. Tour dates and locations are subject to change at any time. Monitor www.uscapitolchristmastree.com/calendar for updates. Beginning November 4, the tree’s journey can also be tracked online at capitoltreetracker.com.

In addition to presenting sponsor 84 Lumber, partners supporting the 2023 journey include Kenworth Truck Company, Werner Enterprises, Hale Truck and Trailer, Spireon, a Solera solution, WCHS ABC 8/FOX 11, Verizon Frontline, Society of American Foresters, All Crane & Equipment Rental, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Truckload Carriers Association, AHF Products, Bruce®, Armstrong Flooring™ and Robbins® flooring brands, Great West Casualty Company, Warwood Tool, LexisNexis VitalChek Network, Inc. and others.

The top priority is the safety of tour staff, event attendees, and the tree; local public health guidelines will be followed. We ask the public to be aware of the large truck’s substantial blind spots, wide turns, and longer stopping distances on our roads as they welcome the tree to their communities.

Follow the journey of the 2023 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree and be a part of the festivities at www.uscapitolchristmastree.com, [@uscapitolchristmastree](https://www.facebook.com/MonongahelaNF) on Facebook and Instagram, or the Monongahela National Forest website at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/mnf> and <https://www.facebook.com/MonongahelaNF>.



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OBITUARIES



Andrew Milton "Andy" Bates

Andrew Milton "Andy" Bates, 57, of Dola, passed away suddenly Friday, September 1, 2023, at his home. He was born in Clarksburg, June 26, 1966, a son of the Gary R. Bates and the late Patricia A. Curn Bates.

Surviving are one brother, Ty L. Bates and his wife Starla, Clarksburg; his children, Mary Elizabeth Hull and her wife Kari, Alyza Irene, Karmella Cleo, and Gerald Leo Bates, all of Clarksburg; three grandchildren, Kale Elizabeth, Reese Clark, and Judd Douglas Bennett, all of Clarksburg; his niece, Tabatha Ann Bates; nephew, Ross Bates; and a great niece, Jordyn Gwynn Sapp, all of Dola.

In addition to his mother, Andy was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Irene and Stanley Curn, and his paternal grandparents, Gerald and Mildred Bates.

Andy was a 1984 graduate of Lincoln High School and was employed by ECM Energy Services as a traffic controller. He enjoyed spending time with his beloved parrot, Brooklyn.

A memorial gathering for family and friends will be held at the Ten Mile Baptist Church in Dola on Friday, September 8, from 6-8pm. Condolences may be extended to the family at www.perinefunerals.com. The Perine Funeral Home is honored to

serve the Bates family.



Dontae Michael Carroll

Dontae Michael Carroll, 15, of Worthington, passed from this life into the waiting hands of Jesus on Saturday, September 2, 2023. He was born on November 12, 2007 in Fairmont to Martin Brooks of Shinnston and Whitney (Carroll) Ridenour and stepfather, Dale of Fairmont.

Dontae did not know a stranger. He gave the best hugs and had a smile that would light up any room. He had so many friends and just enjoyed life to the fullest. He was always with Uncle Travis, who was truly his best friend, going for walks, going for car rides, anything they could do just for fun. He loved to sit at the piano with his Uncle Justin and learn new songs although his favorite was the Michael Myers theme song to scare his Momma.

In addition to his parents, Dontae is survived by two brothers: Gemoni Ridenour of Worthington and Darius Conrad of Salem; maternal grandmother, Vickie Carroll of Fairmont; paternal grandmother Charlene Belton of Fairmont, five uncles: Justin Carroll and wife Dee of Fairmont, Travis Martin of Fairmont, Troy Wilson of Fairmont, Tyler Wilson of Fairmont and Brandon Carroll of Salem; two aunts: Trista Ridenour of Mannington and Deva Belton of Fairmont; one great aunt, Debra Weaver of Mannington as well as

several more aunts, uncles and cousins and his church family, Reverend Douglas Wyatt and wife Linda of Fairmont.

Dontae is preceded in death by his maternal grandfather, Leslie Carroll.

Dontae loved playing video games, especially Fornite and Call of Duty Zombies, riding his dirt bike and playing cards.

Donations can be made to his Care Fund on his memorial page to assist the family with funeral costs.

Family and friends will be received at Dorsey Funeral Home, 701 S. Pike St., Shinnston, on Thursday, September 7, 2023 from 1:00pm until 7:00pm, time of service with Reverend Douglas Wyatt officiating. In keeping with the family's wishes, he will be cremated.

Dontae is preceded in death by his maternal grandfather, Leslie Carroll.

Dorsey Funeral Home is honored to be handling the arrangements for the Carroll family.



James "Jim" Cottrill

James "Jim" Cottrill, 62, of Shinnston, WV, passed away September 2, 2023. He was born on April 2, 1961 in Cleveland, OH, a son to the late William Lee Cottrill and Catherine Elizabeth (Craig) Cottrill. Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his grandparents, Alvin Wilbur Cottrill and Elisa Madge Cottrill (Haddix), and Harry C. Craig and Mary Lavine Craig (Malone).

He is survived by

his step-children, Destiny Paugh and husband Joe; grandchildren Peyton and fiancé Natalie, Eryn, Izabella "Bella" and Jasper Paugh; stepson Devin Moran and fiancé Diana. Jim loved his family unconditionally. He served on Spelter Fire Dept. for many years and enjoyed serving his community. He worked as a paramedic and retired from that position. Friends will be received at Harmer Funeral Home on Thursday, September 7, 2023 from 5:00PM-7:00PM. A funeral service will immediately follow.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Harmer Funeral Home.



Barbara Jean Wright

Barbara Jean Wright, 72, of Shinnston, passed away September 9, 2023, at her residence. She was born on December 4, 1950 to the late Earl Lee Miller and Jeanne Caldwell. Along with her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband whom she married December 2, 1995, Billy Wright; sisters Joan Harriet Miller, Susan Ann Miller, Nancy Cunningham; Rose Mary Policichio; step father Robert Moore; grandson Raymond Eggleston; and a friend of over 50 years, Krista McIntyre.

She will be sadly missed by those she left behind which include her children, daughter Regina Rector of Shinnston and grandchildren Josh Rucker, Joey Rucker, Marcus Rucker (Faith Smith), all of Shinnston, daughter

Paula (Brian) Winans of Shinnston, and grandchildren Andrea (Mike) Fedio of Clarksburg, Allison Winans (Myra Hazard) of Shinnston, daughter Linda Vanscoy of Hepzibah, and grandchildren Sarra and Brandon Coleman, and Christopher Rector of California, daughter Sherry (Paul) McElroy of Spelter, WV, and grandchildren Brittany (Charlie) Stire of Spelter, Jeremy Halpenny of Shinnston, Courtney (Malachi) Shank of Indiana, daughter Jamie (Joseph) McIntyre of Clarksburg, and grandchildren Bella (Anthony) Burkhammer, Nicholas Bosley, and Krista McIntyre, all of Clarksburg; stepson William Wright of Pennsylvania; stepdaughter Nichole Moore of Clarksburg,

and grandchildren Sunni Moore, Clayton Moore, Sierra Moore, and Lily Moore, all of Clarksburg. Barbara is also survived by her siblings, Tom (Bev) Miller, Roger (Shirley Miller) Patty (Jerry) Riblett, Kim (Rick) Wilson, Tim Miller, Bucky Miller and family friend Dale Goff as well as 20 great-grandchildren.

Barbara loved spending time with her family, fishing, gambling, and camping. She enjoyed going to the beach, shopping, and eating, and absolutely loved looking beautiful.

Friends will be received at Harmer Funeral Home on Tuesday, September 12, 2023, from 11:00AM to 9:00PM, with a funeral service being held at 7:00PM.

WVU issues statement after University Faculty Assembly votes

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — West Virginia University issued the following statement from Taunja Willis-Miller, Chair, WVU Board of Governors, on Wednesday, Sept. 6, following a meeting of the University Faculty Assembly. Notably, the quorum necessary for today's Assembly was 662 of the full-time instructional faculty across the WVU System. The Faculty Senate disallowed faculty members serving as deans or those serving in central administration roles from voting.

Statement:
The West Virginia University Board of Governors appreciates the faculty members who shared their perspectives at today's University Faculty Assembly meeting regarding consideration of a no-confidence resolution for President E. Gordon Gee and a resolution calling for a freeze of the University's Academic Transformation process.

We acknowledge the passage of these votes. The Board of Governors unequivocally supports the leadership of President Gee and the strategic repositioning of WVU and rejects the multiple examples of misinformation that informed these resolutions. The University is transforming to better reflect the needs of today, and we must continue to act boldly. President Gee has shown time and again he is not afraid to do the difficult work required.

The challenges we are facing right now are not unique to WVU. The Board is determined to address the challenges head-on and directed the administration to address Academic Transformation. The Board maintains that we must do this work to remain competitive and relevant as we become an even stronger university.

Though the University has been working to maximize resources and improve efficiencies since 2015, the Board outlined specifically the need for academic transformation in December 2020. It is important to note that, although the structural budget deficit may have added to the urgency, this transformation process — particularly academic transformation — would still be taking place. We know the process is critical to ensure a strong future for the University, and we required strict timelines which the president and the leadership team are meeting. The Board of Governors will continue to work with university leadership, faculty, staff and students to move quickly and efficiently.

We do recognize that this is a difficult process. We feel for those who may be affected. We realize this is not easy and none of this was entered into lightly. We remain committed to the work of transforming this beloved University, and together we must continue to focus on our highest priority of educating our students and serving the people of West Virginia.

Taunja Willis-Miller
Chair, WVU Board of Governors

Out of the Past

Memorable photographs from around Harrison County



Joe Belcastro (1940-1985) was born in Shinnston, West Virginia, studied at West Virginia University and lived for a time in New York City. An outstanding pianist, Joe appeared on West Virginia Public Radio, won a State Department tour and performed with many outstanding jazz artists. He was also an extremely generous and insightful teacher. Photo and Caption courtesy of West Virginia University



Pictured Front row: Dortha Parsons; Post 31 Commander, Tom Jenkins; Past Commander Bruce Grimes; and Renie Grimes. Second Row: Andrea Skelly; Parry Jenkins; Lily Capozzi; Marsha Duckworth; Carla Wilfong; Cheryl Turner; Margaret Yost and Betsy Turner.

American Legion Post 31 Honors Past Commander

On Saturday, July 15, 2023, members of the American Legion Family Post 31 (Legion, Auxiliary, Sons, Riders) gathered to honor past commander and Navy Veteran, Bruce Grimes and his family. Bruce served as American Legion Post 31 Commander from 2016 to 2023. He is also a 29-year member of Post 31. He decided not to run for reelection for the 2023-2024 Legion Year to spend more time with his family. Among other things accomplished during his tenure as commander there were many improvements made to the American Legion Post 31 building to make it more attractive and user friendly.

The program was opened with a prayer by and introduction by Robin Shingleton, American Legion Post 31 2nd Vice Commander and Legion Riders Post 31 Treasurer. Robin is also a member of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 31. The POW/MIA Service was performed by

American Legion Post Adjutant, Tom Willis. Guest speaker for the event was Miles Epling, American Legion Department of West Virginia Adjutant. Comments were also made by Post Commander, Tom Jenkins; Auxiliary Unit 31 President, Marsha Duckworth; and American Legion Riders Director, Cliff Shingleton; and Sons of the American Legion, Eugene Lamb. Last, but not least, were comments by Past Post Commander Bruce Grimes. Bruce and his wife, Renie, were presented with several gifts during the program.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 31 prepared a dinner of baked steak, fried chicken, green beans, mashed potatoes/gravy, tossed salad, rolls and a special cake with the American Legion Emblem.

Music for the event was provided by "Vets with Guitars".

Attorney General Morrissey Urges Congress to Study AI and Its Harmful Effects on Children

CHARLESTON — As part of a bipartisan 54-state and territory coalition, West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrissey joined a letter urging Congress to study how artificial intelligence (AI) can and is being used to exploit children through child sexual abuse material (CSAM) and to propose legislation to protect children from those abuses.

"Child predators are hiding behind AI and 'deepfakes' to fulfill and perpetuate their perverted and violent interest in children," Attorney General Morrissey said. "AI is harming children, both victims of abuse as well as those

who are harming children. We must put a stop to this."

"We must protect our children from predators who use their likeness for sinister purposes. Congress should do the right thing to stop the exploitation of children."

"AI is also being used to generate child sexual abuse material. For example, AI tools can rapidly and easily create 'deepfakes' by studying real photographs of abused children to generate new images showing those children in sexual positions," the coalition wrote in the letter. "This involves overlaying the face of one person on the body of another. Deepfakes can also be generated by overlaying photographs of otherwise unvictimized children on the internet with photographs of abused children to create new CSAM involving the previously unharmed children."

Attorney General Morrissey and the rest of the coalition ask Congress to form a commission to study specifically how AI can be used to exploit children and to "act to deter and address child exploitation, such as by expanding existing restrictions on CSAM to explicitly cover AI-generated CSAM."

"We are engaged in a race against time to protect the children of our country from the dangers of AI," the coalition wrote. "Indeed, the proverbial walls of the city have already been breached. Now is the time to act."

West Virginia joined the South Carolina-, Mississippi-, North Carolina-, and Oregon-led letter along with Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Northern Mariana Islands, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virgin Islands, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Secretary of State Mac Warner Reports 1,175 New WV Business Registrations for August of 2023

Charleston, W. Va. – The WV Secretary of State's Office registered 1,175 new businesses statewide during the month of August according to Secretary of State Mac Warner.

Taylor County led the state in the percentage of new business growth through August with a total of 18 new business registrations, a 2.52% increase. The Secretary of State's Business & Licensing Division reported that Lincoln, Summers, Mason and Doddridge Counties also experienced notable growth during the month.

Top five counties in new business growth:

1. Taylor County - 2.52% growth.
2. Lincoln County - 2.48% growth.
3. Summers County - 2.18% growth.
4. Mason County - 2.05% growth.
5. Doddridge County - 1.87% growth.

Counties that lead the state in total businesses registered in August include Kanawha, Monongalia, Berkeley, Jefferson and Raleigh.

Top five counties in total businesses registered:

1. Kanawha County - 133 new registrations.
2. Monongalia County - 105 new registrations.
3. Berkeley County - 94 new registrations.
4. Jefferson County - 77 new registrations.
5. Raleigh County - 75 new registrations.

Statewide, West Virginia registered 13,846 new businesses in the previous 12-month period, from September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2023. Taylor County led all 55 counties with a 21.25% growth rate during the one-year timespan. To review county-by-county growth, visit our Business Statistics Database.

Congressman Alex X. Mooney Returns from Congressional Delegation Trip to Taiwan

Washington, DC – Last week, Congressman Alex X. Mooney visited Taiwan as part of a Congressional Delegation trip.

While Communist China has become increasingly authoritarian and belligerent, Taiwan is a free market democracy. Congress has led the way in expressing support for Taiwan by authorizing the continuation of commercial, cultural, and defense relations between the people of the United States and Taiwan.

Congressman Mooney said of the trip, "Taiwan has come under increasing threat from Communist China. Now more than ever it is important for the United States to stand with democratic Taiwan. America has a duty to stand by fellow democracies who are facing aggression from dictatorships. Marxism remains one of mankind's most evil inventions and has led to the death of millions of innocent people. I know from personal experience as my mother was imprisoned by Fidel Castro and ultimately fled Cuba for America after the communists took over. My father a Vietnam veteran also fought communist aggression. Just as America stood up to and ultimately defeated the Soviet Union, we must be prepared to stand up to our Marxists opponent who are bent on world domination and conquering democratic governments like Taiwan."

Congressman Mooney added, "It was a pleasure to meet with Taiwanese leaders to convey our support. I was also pleased to hear about the investments that Taiwanese companies are making in West Virginia."

As part of the trip, Congressman Mooney met with the President of the Legislative Yuan, Taiwanese government ministers and met with American and Taiwanese business leaders.

The Congressman had the opportunity to meet with Director Ricky Lee of the West Virginia Taiwan Office, which was opened in April to serve as a hub for promoting West Virginia as a location for Taiwanese investment and assisting West Virginia businesses with exporting their products and services to Taiwan.

The Congressman met with Taiwanese company Far Eastern New Century, which has a facility in Apple Grove, WV.

"A Newspaper The Whole Family Can Read"
Shinnston Harrison County
The News & Journal

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How To Let Us Know

To start home delivery or to report a service problem,
call our office at 304-647-5724 or fax us at 304-647-5767.

Gov. Justice announces that West Virginia's EMS workforce has grown by more than 600 over the past year following his Answer the Call initiative

CHARLESTON, WV – Gov. Jim Justice today shared progress on his EMS WV: Answer the Call initiative which has addressed the state's need for additional trained Emergency Medical Services (EMS) professionals.

In the past 12 months, the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Public Health's Office of Emergency Medical Services has reported a significant increase in EMS providers.

From August 2022 to August 2023, West Virginia has gained 40 Emergency Medical Responders, 465 Emergency Medical Technicians, 91 Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians, and 57 Paramedics. In addition, testing for the National Registry Emergency Medical Technician has improved by as much as 21% for EMS instructors across the state.

"This program's growth has been remarkable, and it is important the people of West Virginia understand its significance," Gov. Justice said. "Our amazing EMS workers are heroes who always run to the fire, but they do not grow on trees. They are few and far between, and this program continues to provide the resources and training to help develop more of them in our communities. I am confident we will continue to grow this profession in our state, reduce the workload on our current workers, and safeguard the people of West Virginia for generations to come."

EMS personnel can find jobs throughout West Virginia with solid benefits and pay in a variety of organizations — public and private ambulance services, and fire departments.

In December 2021, Gov. Justice announced that West Virginia would allocate \$10 million of its remaining CARES Act dollars to grow West Vir-

ginia's EMS workforce. At the Governor's direction, West Virginia's Community and Technical College System worked alongside EMS community partners to provide education and training opportunities for Emergency Medical Technician and paramedic careers.

Dr. Cynthia Persily, incoming Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Human Services, previously served as Vice Chancellor of Health Sciences at the state higher education office where she led the Governor's EMS workforce expansion initiative. Her work included the deployment of state-of-the-art mobile ambulance simulators that are being used across the state by community and technical colleges and training facilities to offer EMS training in rural areas.

"I am grateful to Gov. Justice for his vision for this program and for those across the state working to make it a success including Jody Ratliff who leads DHHR's Office of Emergency Medical Services," Dr. Persily said. "Improving workforce recruitment and retaining employees through education and investment are critical to strengthening the EMS workforce and, ultimately, to supporting a thriving and healthy West Virginia."

The Governor's initiative included the investment in test preparation software to increase certification examination success and EMT education courses provided to residents at no cost. It also included a public relations campaign promoting EMS careers within the state.

Built around the theme "Answer the Call," this campaign was developed to help West Virginians seeking careers in these fields access the most up-to-date information, which can be found at <https://www.emswv.com/>.

Attorney General Morrissey Announces Tentative Settlement in Google Antitrust Case

CHARLESTON — West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrissey on Thursday announced a bipartisan group of 52 attorneys general has reached a tentative agreement with Google arising out of the company's anticompetitive conduct involving the Google Play Store.

The case focuses on the company's Play Store and alleges that Google harmed consumers by using its monopoly power in the Android app market to inflate prices for paid apps and in-app purchases. The agreement in principle will be finalized over the next 30 days and submitted to the court for approval, at which point the details will be made public.

"Vigorous competition protects consumers and helps the economy thrive," Attorney General Morrissey said. "Our nation's antitrust laws play a vital role in helping to foster innovation and ensure that consumers pay a fair price. Likewise, our nation loses when one company can use unlawful means to monopolize a particular market. We must feverishly oppose such tactics."

"No company is too big to play by the rules."

The lawsuit centers on Google's alleged exclusionary conduct, which substantially shuts out competing app

distribution channels.

The attorneys general allege Google unlawfully requires app developers that offer their app through the Google Play Store to use Google Billing as a middleman. Such an arrangement forces app consumers to pay Google's commission — up to 30% — on in-app purchases of digital content the consumers create through apps that are distributed via the Google Play Store.

The attorneys general allege Google broke its early promise to app developers and device manufacturers that it would keep Android "open source," allowing developers to create compatible apps and distribute them without unnecessary restrictions.

The lawsuit also alleges Google sought to enhance or protect its monopoly position by buying off its potential competition, requiring contracts that foreclose competition and imposing technical barriers to strongly discourage or effectively prevent third-party app developers to achieve success outside of the Google Play Store.

Attorney General Morrissey joined the lawsuit with a bipartisan group of attorneys general from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.



Don't forget to follow us on Facebook to get the latest in updates

LEGAL

(2022-C-000007 - HARRISON COUNTY - WVTA LLC)

To: ASHLEY LEARY, ASHLEY LEARY, STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, ASHLEY LEARY, ASHLEY LEARY, ASHLEY LEARY, ASHLEY KENNEDY, OCCUPANT, IRS, ATTN: ADVISORY CONSOLIDATED RECEIPTS, WV STATE TAX DEPARTMENT, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT KYLE MAP 40 PARCEL CLARK OUTSIDE DISTRICT 101 0276 0000 0000

You will take notice that WVTA LLC, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2022-C-000007**, located in CLARK OUTSIDE DISTRICT District, 2 LOTS 6 & PT 7 GROGAN ADD INC PAR 277, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of LEARY ASHLEY N, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of HARRISON County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 27, 2023. WVTA LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 22, 2024, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 21, 2024 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2021-30586.	\$ 347.38
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number.	\$ 0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2022-30571.	\$ 266.38
Additional taxes with interest.	\$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$ 210.50
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service,	\$ 1,068.58
Additional Statutory Fees with interest.	\$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$ 1,892.84

You may redeem at any time before January 21, 2024 by paying the above total less any unearned check.

Given under my hand August 24, 2023

G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.

G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.

Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and

Nonentered Lands of HARRISON County, State of West Virginia

**Please return this letter and payment to the
West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections
Division 1900 Kanawha Blvd East
Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568**

LEGAL

(2022-C-000428 - HARRISON COUNTY - WVTA LLC)

To: LARRY FORTNEY, NANCY FORTNEY, NANCY FORTNEY, NANCY FORTNEY, NANCY FORTNEY, NANCY FORTNEY, SUZZANE HALL, TD BANK USA, NA SUCCESSOR TO TARGET NATIONAL BANK C/O JUSTIN BLOCK, SUZZANE HALL, OCCUPANT, IRS, ATTN: ADVISORY CONSOLIDATED RECEIPTS, WV STATE TAX DEPARTMENT, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT KYLE MAP 40 PARCEL EAGLE OUTSIDE DISTRICT 167 0042 0000 0000

You will take notice that WVTA LLC, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2022-C-000428**, located in EAGLE OUTSIDE DISTRICT District, 1 LOT PEORA, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of FORTNEY LARRY ETAL, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of HARRISON County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 27, 2023. WVTA LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 22, 2024, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 21, 2024 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2021-30586.	\$ 793.91
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number.	\$ 0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2022-30571.	\$ 683.18
Additional taxes with interest.	\$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$ 210.50
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service,	\$ 1,079.98
Additional Statutory Fees with interest.	\$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$ 2,767.57

You may redeem at any time before January 21, 2024 by paying the above total less any unearned check.

Given under my hand August 24, 2023

G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.

G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.

Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and

Nonentered Lands of HARRISON County, State of West Virginia

**Please return this letter and payment to the
West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections
Division 1900 Kanawha Blvd East
Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568**

LEGAL

(2022-C-000270 - HARRISON COUNTY - WVTA LLC)

To: LINCOLN REAL ESTATE INC, LINCOLN REAL ESTATE INC, OCCUPANT, IRS, ATTN: ADVISORY CONSOLIDATED RECEIPTS, WV STATE TAX DEPARTMENT, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT KYLE MAP 40 PARCEL CLAY SHINNSTON CORP 1003 0047 0000 0000

You will take notice that WVTA LLC, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, **Cert. No. 2022-C-000270**, located in CLAY SHINNSTON CORP District, 1 LOT PT B PLAT A MONROE ADD, which was returned delinquent or nonentered in the name of LINCOLN REAL ESTATE INC, and was sold by the deputy commissioner of delinquent or nonentered lands of HARRISON County at the sale for the delinquent taxes on April 27, 2023. WVTA LLC requests that you be notified a deed for such real estate will be made on or after January 22, 2024, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount needed to redeem on or before January 21, 2024 will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the certification, with interest, for tax year ticket number 2021-18159	\$ 1,539.80
Back tax tickets, with interest, and charges due on the date of certification for ticket number.	\$ 0.00
Subsequent of taxes paid on the property, with interest to for tax year 2022-18268.	\$ 1,372.96
Additional taxes with interest.	\$ 0.00
Auditor's Certification, Publication, and Redemption fee plus interest.	\$ 210.50
Amount paid for Title Examination, notice to redeem, publication, personal service,	\$ 1,044.01
Additional Statutory Fees with interest.	\$ 0.00
Total Amount Due and Payable to WV State Auditor - cashier check, money order, certified or personal check.	\$ 4,167.27

You may redeem at any time before January 21, 2024 by paying the above total less any unearned check.

Given under my hand August 24, 2023

G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.

G. Russell Rollyson, Jr.

Deputy Commissioner of Delinquent and

Nonentered Lands of HARRISON County, State of West Virginia

**Please return this letter and payment to the
West Virginia State Auditor's Office, County Collections
Division 1900 Kanawha Blvd East
Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568**

LEGAL

(2020-S-00000393 - Harrison County - NAJ LLC)

To: ELLA P COSTLOW, or heirs at law, devisees, creditors, representatives, successors, assigns, all known heirs, guardians, conservators, fiduciaries, administrators, lienholders, co-owners, other parties having an undivided interest in the delinquent property, and other parties that may have an interest in the subject property.

DISTRICT EAGLE OUTSIDE DISTRICT MAP 9999 PARCEL 0620 7008

You will take notice that NAJ LLC, the purchaser of the tax lien(s) on the following real estate, Certificate of Sale: 2020-S-00000393, 12.50 AS O & G SHINN RUN, located in EAGLE OUTSIDE DISTRICT, which was returned delinquent in the name of COSTLOW ELLA P, and for which the tax lien(s) thereon was sold by the sheriff of Harrison County at the sale for the delinquent taxes made on the 5th day of November, 2020, has requested that you be notified that a deed for such real estate will be made to him or her on or after October 23, 2023, as provided by law, unless before that day you redeem such real estate. The amount you will have to pay on the last day, October 22, 2023, will be as follows:

Amount equal to the taxes and charges due on the date of the sale, with interest, to October 22, 2023.	\$ 130.86
Amount of subsequent year's taxes paid on the property, since the sale, with interest to October 22, 2023.	\$ 21.06
Amount paid for the Title Examination and preparation of the list to be served and for preparation and service of notice with interest from January 1, 2021, following the sheriff's sale to October 22, 2023.	\$ 1,122.54
Amount paid for other statutory costs with interest from following the sheriff's sale to October 22, 2023.	\$ 43.57
Total Amount Payable to Sheriff - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable Robert Matheny, Sheriff and Treasurer of Harrison County.	\$ 1,318.03
Cost of Certification of Redemption - cashier check, money order or certified check must be made payable to The Honorable John B. McCuskey, State Auditor.	\$ 35.00

You may redeem any time before October 22, 2023, by paying the above total less any unearned interest.

**Return this letter and both certified funds to the
WV State Auditor's Office,
County Collection Division
1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Building 1, Room W-114
Charleston, West Virginia 25305.
Questions please call 1-888-509-6568 option 2**

Capito, Colleagues Urge Biden Administration to End Crackdown on School Hunting and Archery Programs

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-W. Va.) recently joined with 17 of her Senate colleagues, led by Senator John Cornyn (R-Texas), in sending a letter urging U.S. Department of Education Secretary Miguel Cardona to implement the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act as Congress intended and restore federal funding for educational activities like hunting and archery:

“Once again, the Biden administration has taken a misguided interpretation of laws passed by Congress. I’ve heard from countless West Virginians who would be impacted by this and the educational opportunities and resources it would take from our children. My colleagues and I are taking action to ensure the voices of millions of Americans and West Virginians are heard loud and clear,” Senator Capito said.

“This pivotal piece of legislation provided resources for local, state, and federal agencies to respond to communities in crisis, provide mental health services, and build proactive safety responses to avoid future tragedies. The legislation was also carefully negotiated and drafted to protect and preserve law-abiding citizens’ Second Amendment rights. Unfortunately, and contrary to Congressional intent, the Department of Education (“the Department”) has misinterpreted the language to

exclude certain educational activities from receiving federal resources,” the senators wrote.

“This is concerning because of the important role these enrichment programs can play in students’ lives. Archery is an inclusive extracurricular activity that empowers students from all backgrounds to learn a sport and compete. Hunter safety classes and programs play an important role in teaching safety, wildlife management, landowner relations, and personal responsibility to students.”

“We ask that the Department interpret the language as Congress intended and no longer ask educational entities to seek other funding sources for educational enrichment programs that align with the intent of ESEA— supporting student achievement and student well-being,” the senators concluded.

Full text of the letter is available here and below.

Dear Secretary Cardona,
Following the tragedies in Uvalde, Texas, and Buffalo, New York, members of the United States Senate quickly began drafting the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA). This pivotal piece of legislation provided resources for local, state, and federal agencies to respond to communities in crisis, provide mental health services, and build proactive safety responses to avoid

future tragedies. The legislation was also carefully negotiated and drafted to protect and preserve law-abiding citizens’ Second Amendment rights.

Unfortunately, and contrary to Congressional intent, the Department of Education (“the Department”) has misinterpreted the language to exclude certain educational activities from receiving federal resources.

Specifically, section 13401 of BSCA amended section 8526 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (“ESEA”) to add a new prohibited use of federal funds provided under ESEA. The intent of section 13401 of BSCA was to preclude these funds from being used to purchase dangerous weapons for school staff or to train school staff in the use of dangerous weapons, with the recognition that ESEA funds should support student achievement, educational enrichment programs, and student well-being. Other federal funds appropriated in the BSCA were intended to support evidence-based school safety and protective measures.

In implementing section 13401, the Department issued guidance that contradicts Congressional intent. The Department’s interpretation has sparked concerns from district and state leaders that ESEA funds may no longer be used to support archery, hunter safety education, or other extracurricular programs.

We understand the Department has encouraged local and state education agencies to seek alternative sources of funding for archery and hunting educational enrichment programs. This is concerning because of the important role these enrichment programs can play in students’ lives. Archery is an inclusive extracurricular activity that empowers students from all backgrounds to learn a sport and compete. Hunter safety classes and programs play an important role in teaching safety, wildlife management, landowner relations, and personal responsibility to students. Over 600,000 students are trained and certified annually, and research indicates due to the increased participation in hunters safety courses, the instance of hunting related injuries have significantly decreased over the last 50 years.

We ask that the Department interpret the language as Congress intended and no longer ask educational entities to seek other funding sources for educational enrichment programs that align with the intent of ESEA— supporting student achievement and student well-being. It is our hope that the Department will rethink its latest guidance that threatens students’ access to these programs, which support pathways to professional success, community safety, and personal wellbeing

Manchin Leads Bipartisan Effort to Protect School Archery, Hunter Education Programs

Washington, DC – This week, U.S. Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) led a group of eighteen bipartisan Senators in urging U.S. Department of Education Secretary Miguel Cardona to implement the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) as Congress intended and restore federal funding for educational activities like hunting and archery.

“This pivotal piece of legislation provided resources for local, state, and federal agencies to respond to communities in crisis, provide mental health services, and build proactive safety responses to avoid future tragedies. The legislation was also carefully negotiated and drafted to protect and preserve law-abiding citizens’ Second Amendment rights,” the Senators wrote in part. “Unfortunately, and contrary to Congressional intent, the Department of Education has misinterpreted the language to exclude certain educational activities from receiving federal resources.”

The BSCA, which passed the Senate in June of 2022, amended the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 to prohibit these federal funds from being used to purchase dangerous weapons for school staff or to train school staff in the use of dangerous weapons, with the recognition that ESEA funds should

support student achievement, educational enrichment programs and student well-being. However, the Department of Education has contradicted Congressional intent by issuing guidance that these funds may no longer be used to support archery, hunter safety education or other extracurricular programs.

“We understand the Department has encouraged local and state education agencies to seek alternative sources of funding for archery and hunting educational enrichment programs. This is concerning because of the important role these enrichment programs can play in students’ lives,” the Senators continued. “It is our hope that the Department will rethink its latest guidance that threatens students’ access to these programs, which support pathways to professional success, community safety, and personal wellbeing.”

Senator Manchin was joined by Senators John Cornyn (R-TX), Kyrsten Sinema (I-AZ), Thom Tillis (R-NC), Bob Casey (D-PA), Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), Maggie Hassan (D-NH), Joni Ernst (R-IA), Tim Kaine (D-VA), Roger Wicker (R-MS), Martin Heinrich (D-NM), Mitt Romney (R-UT), Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Susan Collins (R-ME), Mark Kelly (D-AZ) and Lindsey Graham (R-SC).

DHHR Celebrates West Virginia Recovery Month

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR), Office of Drug Control Policy is joining partners nationwide in recognizing National Recovery Month.

Gov. Jim Justice has also proclaimed September as West Virginia Recovery Month to emphasize that everyone has a role

in supporting recovery.

“Addiction is treatable and recovery is possible. It’s up to us to spread that hope to our communities this month,” said Rachel Thaxton, Interim Director of DHHR’s Office of Drug Control Policy. “By sharing information about substance use disorder and celebrating recovery together, our state can build resiliency.”

WV will Celebrate September as National Voter Registration Month

by Brittany Westfall, Elections

Division Director, WV Secretary of State’s Office

For the last 21 years, state, county, and local election officials nationwide have recognized September as National Voter Registration Month. The WV Secretary of State’s Office has proudly participated alongside counterparts across the nation each year since the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) started the initiative in 2002. During this month, the goal of our office is to increase awareness about West Virginia’s voter registration laws, invite eligible citizens to register to vote and encourage registered voters to keep their information up to date.

In partnership with the state’s county clerks, our office works to coordinate voter registration drives in communities throughout the state. In the past three election cycles (since 2018), the clerks have successfully registered 333,633 new voters, over a quarter of our 1,160,367 registered voters.

The most notable effort by the county clerks and our office is our work with high schools to educate seniors on how to register once they are of eligible voting age. In West Virginia, seventeen-year-old citizens may register to vote in the primary election if they are eighteen by the corresponding general election.

The message of civic responsibility resonates well with students thanks to our very own United States Senator Jennings Randolph’s leadership role in the advancement of their voting rights. Beginning in 1942, Randolph famously led a 29-year effort to lower the voting age from 21 to 18, resulting in the passage of the 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1971. At the time of publication, there have been 99,916 high school students registered to vote since Secretary of State Mac Warner took office in 2017.

West Virginia provides simple and accessible methods to check, complete, or update a citizen’s voter registration. The WV Secretary of State’s office hosts a secure website (GoVoteWV.com) that offers a 24/7 voter registration search function for all registered voters and

an online voter registration system for voters with a current and valid Driver’s License or State ID. Those who do not have a valid ID can print off an application to mail to their county clerk.

In addition to online registration, eligible citizens can register in person at their county clerk’s office, the Secretary of State’s Office, the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV), and any other state public assistance offices.

Our office also encourages your school, service organization, or community to host your own voter registration drive this month. If you are interested, contact the WVSOS Elections Division at elections@wvsos.gov or 304-558-6000. We will mail you voter registration forms or help you track online registrations received at your drive.

The deadline to register to vote for the May 14, 2024 Primary Election is April 23, 2024. The deadline to register to vote in the November 4, 2024 General Election is October 15, 2024.

While National Voter Registration Month is about ensuring voters have all the information they need to register to vote, our county clerks work daily to do their part in making sure our voter rolls stay current and accurate. One of the chief priorities of Secretary Warner, our Elections Division team, and the county clerks has been to improve the accuracy of the voter rolls. On a routine schedule, clerks mail postcards to voters who appear to have moved, based on data sharing programs by our office. Our office also periodically shares deceased and convicted felon records with the county clerks, so they may immediately cancel those registrations under the provisions law.

Activities surrounding voter registration will continue through the end of September. The celebration of National Voter Registration Day will be held on September 19, 2023. The WV Secretary of State’s Office encourages all West Virginians to help us celebrate National Voter Registration Day in some capacity, whether that is registering to vote, encouraging your friends, co-workers, and family to register, or organizing a voter registration drive in your community.